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General Summary of News.

EUROPE.

Since our publication of yesterday, which gave the heads of public intelligence from Europe, up to the 21st of July, we have received files of the *Englishman*, *Morning Chronicle*, and *Times Newspapers*, up to the 24th, as well as a series of the *Literary Gazette* to the same date. These last will furnish us with some interesting articles for our *Literary Numbers*, but they must be passed over for the moment, to make room for the general political intelligence contained in the popular Papers of the day, which we here continue.

One of the first articles that we are desirous of presenting to our readers, is an ably-written Letter from India, which has been published in the *Morning Chronicle* of the 15th of July, where it may be seen on reference, by those who suppose that all eulogium on the blessings of a *FREE PRESS*, must originate in the Office of the *Calcutta Journal*, merely because that seems to have been the only Indian Paper that has valued itself upon the possession of this inestimable privilege.

They understand this subject better, however, in England; where the Letter of the *FIELD OFFICER*, which enumerates the striking features of the present Government of India, and ranks that of the *FREEDOM OF THE PRESS*, as it deserves to be, among the most brilliant acts of the present Administration, is no sooner received, than it is praised, commented on, eulogized, and repeated from Journal to Journal, in a way that sufficiently shows how it is estimated at home, and how different the public feeling of England is to that of India on the importance of such a gift.

We can hardly hope that this testimony will effect any change in the sentiments of those blind guides, who enshroud themselves in clouds of courted darkness;—for we might say to them, as was said of old to stubborn unbelievers, that if the testimony of those who have already spoken was insufficient to open their understandings, the raising of the dead to life would scarcely effect it.

The fact is, we believe, that their hostility is neither towards the Liberty of the Press, nor to its Noble Liberator, nor to its Learned Legal Eulogist, but to the humble though zealous Advocate who has proved so great a stumbling-block to their monopoly of public favour. The time must come, however, when these personalities shall be shaken off and abandoned as that to which patriots, scholars, and gentlemen should be too proud to stoop; when Truth will be revered for its own sake, without reference to the quarter from whence it springs; and when manly intellect, and independent British feeling will find some more worthy subject for the exercise of its talent than peevish parodies, and witless effusions, as offensive to delicacy as they are repugnant to common sense.

We hope that this Letter of the *FIELD OFFICER*, which we here introduce, will meet the eye of some of those who have assumed that signature, in the late Military Discussions; as they will see by it that all *Field Officers* do not think alike, on questions either of Military or of Civil Policy. The Letter is as follows:

Letter from a *Field Officer* in India to an *Officer* in England, January 22, 1819:—

A ship is about to sail for England; I seize this opportunity to send you a few lines.

British India enjoys repose. The *Rajah* of *Barar*, with a few followers, is indeed roving about the hilly forests, but this is nothing in Indian construction.

The *Marquis* of *Hastings* has, as you have read, greatly extended our dominions. He has done so nominally; in reality he has only substituted a good for a vicious Government. Do you ask me what benefit has resulted from *Lord Hastings's* government? My answer is, that he has done no wrong, and that he has done much good. He has increased the security of our empire by crushing its enemies, and by generally improving the system of government, especially over the

conquered countries; HE HAS TAKEN OFF THE CENSORSHIP OF THE PRESS, AND HAS UNLOCKED THE PUBLIC MIND; he has checked the slave trade in *Nepaul*, formerly the great mart for this inhuman traffic; he has established seminaries for education, and public hospitals; and he has treated the *Princes* in alliance with us with complaisance; and justice. He has, besides, improved the condition of our military establishment. The staff department has been re-organized. Interpreters have been added to the *Native Corps*, and the proceedings of *Courts Martial* have been strictly scrutinized and publicly commented on. In a word, if he has not done all the good that could have been accomplished, we must not forget that he has had to contend with councils, directors, and the controlling power.

The trade here has wonderfully increased since the monopoly system has been broken in upon. There has been, in fact, an over-trading; but this will give people a taste for our manufactures, and eventually increase the trade. The security with which merchandize may traverse the country is another circumstance highly advantageous to the interests of commerce. Still there exist the most dreadful draw-backs on it. The principal of these are the remains of the monopoly; the great difficulty of driving an inland commerce, owing to the high duties, and the restrictions put on people going up the country, or holding intercourse with the natives, and pursuing their own interests in their own way; and finally, the heavy pressure of taxation, which checks the accumulation of capital, and the improvement of agriculture and commerce. If ever sound government shall be established in India, the wealth of the country will be quite incalculable. At present vast tracts of it are wholly uncultivated, and those that are under culture receive none of the benefits of scientific husbandry. The manufacturing interests have been equally neglected. A proof of it is, that cotton is sent home, worked up, and then brought back to India, where, under all the drawbacks upon trade, it has stood all competition.

A very disagreeable occurrence has lately taken place in the *Seventh Regiment of Native Cavalry*. On the regiment being ordered in advance, they began to murmur. They complained, that they had been eleven years in the field; that during this period they had never seen their families; that none of their household ceremonies had or could take place; that now that their families had quitted their houses, and when they were about to join them, they were deprived of the hope of seeing them; that during their service two-thirds of them had perished by sickness or the sword, and the remainder were ready to sacrifice their lives nobly, but that they could not longer suffer a lingering existence. *General Doveton* persuaded them to remain faithful to their standards, and promised to represent their grievances to the favourable consideration of Government. He then seized the leaders; all were acquitted but one. From what has been stated, you will perceive that these men had cause for complaint. Had they had more controul over their feelings, their patient discipline would have deserved regard, but it is doubtful whether it would ever have excited notice.

The surest way to keep soldiers steady to their duty is to treat them mildly, but with great firmness; to preserve, at all times, their discipline without ever degenerating into the *Martinet* system; to punish all crimes, but never with cruelty, and finally to take away all matter of sedition; for if the fuel be prepared, it is hard to say whence the spark shall come that may set it on fire. I am anxious that these strictures should be made known to my countrymen. Let them reflect on them, and learn by experience that even highly disciplined armies are subjected to these aberrations.

I am further anxious they should know that *Lord Hastings* has in the height of his power taken off the CENSORSHIP OF THE PRESS. Let the Public express their opinion on this measure, or the dawn will soon be overcast, and the light which by degrees would break in on us will remain eclipsed. In plain English, a portion of knowledge will be monopolized by the few to preserve the ignorance, the bigotry, and the slavery of the many.

Surely, if there is any human invention distinguished above the rest, it is that which most promotes the knowledge, the freedom, and the happiness of man—IT IS A FREE PRESS.

London, Saturday, July 24.—A French squadron, consisting of a ship of the line, and two frigates, is equipping at Toulon; and is to be joined, we are told, by three others vessels from Rochefort, for the purpose of uniting with an English armament, and clearing the seas adjacent to Gibraltar of the South American privateers. The latter part of this intelligence, viz., the junction of British with French men of war, and the plan of a combined cruise by the 74's and frigates of the two Governments, against the schooners, cutters, or armed brigs of the Insurgents, we consider an improbable sort of tale.

It has been for some time reported, that Count de Cazes is to succeed the Duc de Richelieu in the office of First Gentleman of the King's Chamber.

Our private Correspondent, in his letter of this day, treats the whole story of the overthrow of the Government of Buenos Ayres by Artigas, as a pure fabrication of the Spaniards. So far from Artigas having possessed himself of the city, he had met with so severe a check as to make him desirous of an accommodation with Puyredon.

We insert a paragraph from Cologne, inserted in the French Journals, which contains a number of facts and observations of some interest to our commercial readers.

The Dutch mail brings an article from Philadelphia, according to which Sir H. Popham, with a squadron of 74 gun ships, was at the Havannah, concerting with the Spanish Governor measures preparatory to the cession of Cuba to Great Britain. The Americans will have it, that the people of Cuba are much dissatisfied with this change of masters: that the citizens of the United States are so, we are perfectly ready to believe. The Spaniards, on the other hand, are naturally (and pardonably) anxious to discredit the probability of their empire sustaining the loss of so fine an island. "Keep, then, your ambitious neighbours out of that part of the Spanish territory which commands the colonies of England, and she will feel not the least desire to obtain that portion of it which is calculated by its position to protect them."

We congratulate our readers in the metropolis and elsewhere, on the peaceable termination of the Smithfield meeting last Wednesday. But our report of the proceedings of the Court of Common Council held yesterday in Guildhall, will show that as we were not acquainted with half our danger, so we were but slightly thankful for our preservation and security. The Lord Mayor informed the Court, that he had received upon oath an account of a most monstrous and diabolical project planned by the disaffected, and expecting its execution from the assistance of the assembled mob. This project was nothing less than that of setting fire to the whole city of London, and murdering its inhabitants! Contemplating the completion of so detestable an object the seditious seem to have acted with a forbearance and temper truly surprising: Before the resolution of the populace could have been "screwed to the sticking point" of general conflagration and indiscriminate carnage, the most inflammatory harangues and factious incentives must have been successfully applied. Without panegyrising the conduct of men whose visionary schemes we despise, whose principles we abhor, it may be permitted us to say, that we heard at the meeting of no such stimulants given to excite the perverted multitude. Could a more favourable opportunity have been devised by the ingenuity of a Cataline, than that which was presented by the apprehension of Harrison, for commencing the dreadful work of havoc and devastation? Yet he was carried off from the theatre of democratical distinction as quietly as an ox to his stall, with scarcely a single voice to bemoan his departure, without one single hand raised to protract his stay! If the ultra-Reformers were permitted to carry into effect all their monstrous schemes for altering the constitution and directing the management of public affairs, we entertain not the slightest doubt, that the destruction of the state, and, what is less important of themselves, would soon display the gross absurdity of their plans. We are equally convinced, that clamours against public abuses and political profligacy are most loudly vociferated by many Huntites and Cobbettites, who exhibit in their lives a total want of private worth and virtue. But whatever opinion we hold of these constitution-menders, (and our almost daily censures of them will prove that it is not very flattering to their vanity,) we must still consider the tidings of this worse than the gunpowder-plot as most extraordinary. The Lord Mayor may possess more information on this important point than he thought it judicious to communicate to the meeting at Guildhall: but we trust his Lordship will pardon us, if we stoically withhold our credence of a story so shocking and so improbable, though given upon oath, till further accounts corroborate (which we trust they will not) the alarming detail.

A Bill of Indictment for Sedition has been found at Knutsford, in Cheshire, against Sir Charles Wolesey and another.

The five Persian students sent into England for improvement, by their Prince, were to embark in a few days, upon their return, after a residence of three years in England. One of them, Oostude Muhommed Ali, is united to an English lady of talent in the arts, a Miss Dudley, who accompanies her husband to Persia.

A London Paper of this date says:—We are sorry to state that five houses in the City have this day stopped payment. Two of these are in the American line, two in the woollen line, and one of an Indigo broker of considerable eminence. In the latter instance the calamity is said to have been caused by speculation in the funds.

Notwithstanding the the recent unfavorable accounts from America, two respectable houses, in the Woollen trade, in the neighbourhood of Leeds, are now executing some extensive orders for the American market, and large quantities of goods have arrived at Leeds from Manchester, within these few days, to be forwarded to Hull, and thence shipped for the German and Mediterranean markets.

Sir R. Gifford is appointed Attorney-General, and Serjeant Copley Solicitor-General.

It appears by some returns recently laid on the Table of the House of Commons, that the Bank is steadily proceeding in the reduction of its issues. One of these returns shows the total weekly amount of Bank-notes and Bank post-bills in circulation, between the 18th of last May, and the 30th of June. The result is, that at the former period, the aggregate amount was 25,397,030; and at the latter, only 24,111,190; being a diminution of 1,285,840, in six weeks; or, in the ratio of about 200,000 a-week.

A new Tunnel is cutting under the River Medway, from Rochester to Higham, and when this great work is completed, it is thought that a Steam Boat may be employed from Maidstone to the Capital.

The Canal that was finished a few years ago, is from Gravesend, (a little below the Black Horse, where there is a basin for Colliers to come in and unload) to Higham, which is about three miles from Gravesend, in a direct line to Rochester, where the high grounds commence, and where a Tunnel was before attempted; a part however fell in, and it is supposed that a want of funds prevented its being further proceeded in.

A semaphore Telegraph is about to be erected at Deal, to communicate with others on the line of the Coast, for the prevention of smuggling.

A steam-packet, called the Talbot, one of the largest and finest vessels of the kind hitherto built in this Country, now runs regularly between Holyhead and Howth. Her accommodation for passengers, carriages, &c. are of the most superior description.

The steam-boat Stirling, Capt. Sutherland, was preparing to start from the harbour for New-haven, when in consequence of the safety valve not being opened sufficiently to allow the escape of the accumulating steam, the boiler exploded, and nine persons were more or less scalded, three of them severely; but no lives were lost.

Lord Albemarle mentioned, at Mr Coke's meeting, that he knew one farmer who would begin harvest by the 1st of August.

A party, consisting of Mr. Croker, the Secretary of the Admiralty, Mr. Peel, &c. lately set out on a short excursion to the Continent. It was proposed by one of the party to proceed in the packet from Dover to Calais, and thence round by land to Holland. The Secretary of the Admiralty offered the superior accommodation of the Admiralty barge, and proposed to sail direct for Antwerp. His offer was accepted; they sailed for Antwerp; but it unfortunately happened that there was not skill or intelligence enough on board to find out the mouth of the Scheldt, and the time of the party having been exhausted in the vain experiment, they had the mortification of returning home without setting foot on either France, Flanders, or Holland.

Mr. Brougham, M. P. has married Marianne, Widow of the late John Spalding, Esq. and niece of the late Sir John Eden, Bart.

Accounts from India had been received up to the 28th February.

The tygress from Bengal had littered two fine cubs on the 21st July at Brighton. Such an occurrence is said to have never happened before, either in England or in any part of Europe.

The Court of Directors of the Honorable East India Company have resolved to erect a marble Statue in the India House, to the memory of the late Warren Hastings.

New Post Office Act.

An Act to repeal so much of an Act passed in the Fifty-fifth Year of His present Majesty, as relates to the Postage and Conveyance of Letters to and from the Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, the Mauritius, and the East Indies; and to make other Regulations respecting the Postage of such Letters and Packets, and other Letters and Packets sent by the Post.
[12th July, 1819.]

55 G. 3. c. 153.—So much of recited Act as relates to Postage from the Cape of Good Hope, &c. repealed.

Whereas an Act was passed in the Fifty-fifth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intituled *An Act for granting certain Rates on the Postage of Letters to and from Great Britain, the Cape of Good Hope, the Mauritius, and the East Indies, and for making certain Regulations respecting the Postage of ship Letters, and of Letters in Great Britain*: And whereas it is expedient that the said Act, so far as it relates to the Postage and Conveyance of Letters, Newspapers, printed Prices Current, and printed Papers, to and from the Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, the Mauritius, and the East Indies, should be repealed, and that other Regulations should be made in lieu thereof; be it therefore enacted by the King's most Excellent Majesty, by and with the Advice and Consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the Authority of the same, That from and after the passing of this Act the said Act of the Fifty-fifth Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, so far as relates to the Postage and Conveyance of Letters, Newspapers, printed Prices Current, and printed Papers, to and from the Cape of Good Hope, Ceylon, the Mauritius, and the East Indies, shall be and the same is hereby repealed.

Penalties incurred may be recovered.

II. Provided always nevertheless, and be it further enacted, That any Penalty which shall have been incurred for any Offence contrary to the Provisions of the said recited Act, previously to the passing of this Act, shall and may be recovered and applied in the same manner, to all Intents and Purposes, as if the said recited Act had not been repealed.

The following Rates of Postage to be paid.

III. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for His Majesty's Post Master General, to demand, have, receive, and take, for every Letter or Packet which shall be brought into Great Britain by any Ship or Vessel arriving from Ceylon, the Mauritius, or any Port or Place within the limits of the Charter of the United Company of Merchants of England trading to the East Indies, or from the Cape of Good Hope, the Rates following; that is to say,

Rates for Letters from India.

For every such Letter or Packet, a Sea Postage of Four pence; provided the same shall not exceed the Weight of Three Ounces:

And for every Letter or Packet exceeding the Weight of Three Ounces, a Sea Postage of One Shilling per Ounce, in addition to an inland or internal Postage which may arise upon the inland Conveyance of such Letters and Packets.

And for the Encouragement of the Masters or Commanders of such Ships or Vessels, it shall be lawful for the Postmaster General to allow to every such Commander or Master the Sum of Two-pence a Letter or Packet upon all such Letters and Packets as he or they respectively, on their arrival from Ceylon, the Mauritius, or any Port or Place within the Limits of the Charter of the said United Company, or from the Cape of Good Hope, shall deliver unto the Deputy or Deputies of the Postmaster General, according to the Directions herein-after contained.

Letters may be forwarded to India.

IV. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for His Majesty's Postmaster General, and his Deputy and Deputies by him thereunto authorized, in his and their Discretion, to collect and receive Letters and Packets of Letters directed to Ceylon, the Mauritius, or any Port or Place within the Limits of the said United Company's Charter, or to the Cape of Good Hope, and to forward the same by any Ships or Vessels that he in his Discretion shall think fit; and also that it shall and may be lawful to and for His Majesty's Postmaster General, and his Deputy and Deputies by him thereunto authorized, to and for the Use of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, to demand, have, receive, and take, for every Letter or Packet that shall be delivered to him, or to his Deputy, for Conveyance in Manner herein-before specified, the Rates following; that is to say,

Rates for Letters to India.

For every such Letter a Sea Postage of Two-pence; provided the same shall not exceed the Weight of Three Ounces:

And for every Letter or Packet exceeding in Weight Three Ounces, a Sea Postage at the Rate of One Shilling per Ounce; any Law, Statute, Usage, or Custom to the contrary thereof notwithstanding.

Rates for Newspapers, &c.

V. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful to and for His Majesty's Postmaster General, and his Deputy or Deputies by him thereunto authorized, in his and their Discretion, to receive Newspapers or printed Price Currents, and also any printed Paper liable to the Stamp Duties and duly stamped, for Conveyance to such Places as aforesaid; and also that it shall and may be lawful to and for His Majesty's Postmaster General, and his Deputy and Deputies, to and for the Use of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, to demand, have, receive, and take, for the Conveyance of the same, the Sum of One Penny for each Packet not exceeding One Ounce, and for each Packet exceeding One Ounce, at the Rate of One Penny per Ounce; provided always, that the same be sent in Covers open at the Sides.

Letters, &c. may be forwarded in any other Manner than through the Post Office.

VI. And be it further enacted, That nothing herein contained shall be construed to oblige any Person or Persons to send any Letters or Packets of Letters, or any Newspapers, or printed Prices Current, or any other printed Papers, to the East Indies, or to the Islands of Ceylon or the Mauritius, or any Port or Place whatsoever within the Limits of the Charter of the said United Company, or to the Cape of Good Hope, through His Majesty's Post Office, but that it shall be lawful for all Persons to send Letters and Packets of Letters, Newspapers, printed Prices Current, and other printed Papers to those Places in any Manner that they may find practicable and convenient.

Commanders of Ships or Vessels bound to the East Indies required to take Bags.

VII. And be it further enacted, That the Commanders of all Ships or vessels bound to Ceylon, the Mauritius, or any Port or Place within the Limits of the Charter of the said United Company, or to the Cape of Good Hope, are hereby required to receive on board their respective Ships any Bag or Bags of Letters and Packets which shall be tendered to them for Conveyance as aforesaid by the Postmaster General, or his Deputy and Deputies, without receiving or being entitled to receive any Remuneration for such Conveyance.

Penalty on refusing to receive, or neglecting to deliver, 200l.

VIII. And be it further enacted, That in case any such Commander shall refuse to receive on board his Ship any such Bag or Bags of Letters and Packets, which shall be so tendered to him for Conveyance as aforesaid, or having received on board any such Bag or Bags, shall wilfully neglect to deliver the same on his Arrival at the Port or Place of his Destination, then and in either of such Cases, such Commander shall forfeit and pay a Penalty of Two hundred Pounds.

Court of Directors and Secret Committee may receive and send Letters and Packets to and from the Governments in India free of Postage &c.

XI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Court of Directors of the said United Company, or the Secret Committee appointed by the said Court, in pursuance of Two Acts passed in the Thirty-third and Fifty-third Years of His present Majesty's Reign, to receive free from all Duty of Postage from the several Governments in India, or from any Agent or other Officer of the said Company, at any Place within the Limits of the Charter of the said Company, any Letters or Packet relating entirely to the Affairs of the said Company, and in like Manner to send any such Letters and Packets addressed to such Governments, Agents, or other Officers, free from all Duty of Postage; provided that all Letters so sent be superscribed by the Chairman or Deputy Chairman, or Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the said Company.

And may receive the same from their Agents by the Company's Ships, free of Postage.

X. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the said Court of Directors, Secret Committee, and Secretary or Assistant Secretary of the said United Company, to receive from any Officer or Agent of the said Company abroad any Letters or Packets entirely relating to the Affairs of the said Company by Ships in the Service of the said Company, in the Manner heretofore accustomed, without Payment of any Postage, and without subjecting any Person to any Penalty or Forfeiture in respect thereof.

Commissioners for the Affairs of India and Chairman of the Company may also send and receive Letters and Packets free from Postage. Public Officers who now send and receive Letters free, to have the same Privilege.

XI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Commissioners for the Affairs of India, and for the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the said East India Company for the Time being to send and receive Letters and Packets to and from Ceylon, the Mauritius, or any Port or Place within the Limits of the Charter of the said Company, or to and from the Cape of Good Hope, free from all Duty of Postage; provided that no such Letter or Packet exceed the Weight of Three Ounces.

XII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend, or be construed to extend, to prevent such

public Officers as may now send and receive Letters and Packets free of Postage, from sending and receiving Letters and Packets free from any Postage directed to be paid by this Act, in the same Manner as they are now authorized by Law to send and receive Letters and Packets free from Postage.

Secretary of the Board of Control to have the same Privilege of franking as the Under Secretaries.

XIII. And be it further enacted, That it shall and may be lawful for the Secretary to the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India for the Time being, to send and receive Letters and Packets by the Post free from the Duty of Postage, in the same Manner and under such Regulations and Restrictions as the Under Secretaries to His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State are, by an Act passed in the Forty-second Year of His present Majesty's Reign, or by any other Act, or by this Act, authorized to send and receive Letters and Packets free from Postage.

Letters from the Governor of Ceylon, &c. to the Agents of their Governments not Chargeable.

XIV. And be it further enacted, That nothing in this or any other Act contained shall extend to charge with the Duty of Postage any Letters or Packet addressed by the Governors of His Majesty's Settlements of Ceylon, the Cape of Good Hope, or the Mauritius, or by the Secretaries of such Governments respectively, to the Agents of those Governments residing in England, or by such Agents to such Governors, or Secretaries: Provided always, that the Contents of such Letters and Packets relate bona fide to the Public Service or Concerns of such Governments, and such Governor, Secretary, or Agent respectively superscribe the same.

Directors may receive Letters free of Sea Postage from India by the Ships of the Company.

XV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Directors of the said Company for the Time being, to receive Letters and Packets free from Sea Postage, from any Port or Place within the Limits of the Charter of the said United Company, by Ships in the Service of the said Company; provided that the Letters and Packets brought by any one such Ship to be received by any such Director, do not collectively exceed the Weight of six Ounces; and that such Persons as shall have been Directors may continue to receive such Letters and Packets free from Postage for One Year after they respectively shall have ceased to be Directors.

Owners may receive Letters by their own Vessels free of Sea Postage.

XVI. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Owners, Charterers, or Consignees of Vessels, resident in Great Britain, to receive their Letters by their own Vessels, from Ceylon, the Mauritius, or any Port or Place within the Limits of the Charter of the said United Company, or from the Cape of Good Hope, free from Sea Postage; provided that such Owners, Charterers, or Consignees shall be described as such in the Address and Superscription of such Letters, and that such Letters brought by any one Vessel to any Owner, Charterer or Consignee, shall not collectively exceed the Weight of Twenty Ounces.

As also Owners or Consignees of Goods.

XVII. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for the Owners or Consignees of Goods on board Ships arriving from Ceylon, the Mauritius, or any Port or Place within the Charter of the said United Company, or from the Cape of Good Hope, to receive Letters free from the Sea Postage by such Ships; provided that such Owners or Consignees shall be described as such in the Address and Superscription thereof; and provided it shall appear by the Ship's Manifest, that such Persons actually have Goods on board such Ships; and that the Letter or Letters brought by one such Ship, for any one such Owner or Consignee, shall not collectively exceed the Weight of Six Ounces.

*Penalty on Persons falsely superscribing Letters as being Ship Owners, &c. 10*l*.*

XVIII. And be it further enacted, That if any Person whatsoever shall falsely superscribe any Letter, as being the Owner, Charterer, or Consignee of the Vessel conveying the same, or the Owner, Shipper, or Consignee of the Goods shipped in the Vessel, every such Person and Persons so offending, shall for every such Offence forfeit and pay the Sum of Ten Pounds.

Owners and Consignees may obtain their Letters from the Master, before Delivery at the Post Office.

XIX. And be it further enacted, That such Owners, Charterers, Consignees and Shippers, may on the Account of such Ship obtain such Letters as they respectively may be entitled to receive free of Sea Postage as aforesaid, from the Master of such Ship, before he shall make his Delivery at the Post Office in Manner herein-after directed; but nothing in this Act shall entitle such Owners or Consignees to take away Letters any whatever not within the Limitation of Weight and Superscription.

Owner's Letters exceeding the Weight allowed may be seized and carried to the Post Office.

XX. And be it further enacted, That in case any Collector, Comptroller, or other Officer of His Majesty's Customs, shall find any Letter or Letters superscribed as the Letters of such Owners, Charterers, Consig-

nees, or Shippers, exceeding the Weight limited by this Act, then it shall be lawful for such Collector, Comptroller, or other Officer, to seize so many of the Letters as shall reduce the Remainder within the proper Weight, and he shall take the same to the nearest Post Office; and the Post Master of the Place shall pay to the Officer delivering the same at the Rate of Sixpence for each Letter or Packet so seized.

Masters of Vessels on Arrival to collect, enclose, and seal Letters, and deliver them at the first Post Office, and make the following Declaration.

XXI. And be it further enacted, That on the Arrival of any Ship or Vessel off the Coast of Great Britain, the Master shall cause all Letters on board his Ship (except such Letters as may be obtained by such Owners, Charterers, Consignees, and Shippers as aforesaid, and except Letters and Packets exceeding the Weight of Three Ounces) to be collected, and enclosed in some Bag, Box, or other Envelope, to be sealed with his Seal, and to be addressed to any of His Majesty's Deputy Postmasters in Great Britain, to be in readiness to send on Shore by his own Boat or by the Pilot Boat, or any other safe and convenient Opportunity, in order that the same may be delivered at the first regular Post Office which can be communicated with, and be distributed from thence by the earliest Inland Posts; and shall likewise cause all Letters and Packets exceeding the Weight of Three Ounces (except such as may be obtained by Owners, Charterers, Consignees, and Shippers as aforesaid), to be collected and enclosed in some Bag, Box, or other Envelope, to be sealed and addressed as aforesaid, and shall deliver the same at the regular Port or Place where the Ship or Vessel shall report, and shall at such Port or Place sign a Declaration in the presence of the Person authorized by the Postmaster General at such Port or place, who shall also sign the same; which Declaration shall be in the Form or to the Effect following; that is to say,

"I A. B. Commander of the [state the Name of the Ship or Vessel] arrived from [state the Place] do, as required by Law, solemnly declare, That I have, to the best of my Knowledge and Belief, delivered, or caused to be delivered to the Post Office, every Letter, Bag, Package, or Parcel of Letters that were on board the [state the Name of the Ship] except such Letters as are exempted by Law."

And that until such Declaration shall be made and produced to the Comptroller or Principal Officer of the Customs, he or they shall not permit such Ship or Vessel to report.

*Penalty on refusing to make Declaration, 50*l*.*

XXII. And be it further enacted, That if any Master of any Ship or Vessel shall willingly refuse or neglect to make or produce the said Declaration, he shall forfeit and pay for every such Offence, the Sum of Fifty Pounds.

*Penalty on Persons permitting Vessels to report, until Regulations complied with, 50*l*.*

XXIII. And be it further enacted, That if any Collector, Comptroller or Principal Officer, hereby required to prohibit any Ship or Vessel reporting until the Requisites of this Act shall be complied with, shall permit such Ship or Vessel to report, such Collector, Comptroller or Officer, for permitting such Ship or Vessel to report, shall forfeit and pay the Sum of Fifty Pounds.

*Penalty on Persons having Letters on board after Delivery at the Post Office, 5*l*. for every Letter.*

XXIV. And be it further enacted, That if, after the Master of any Vessel shall have sent his Letters to the Post Office of any Port at which he may touch, prior to his arriving at that Port where the Ship or Vessel is to report, any Letter or Packet not exempted by this Act shall be found on board his Vessel, in his Possession, or in the Possession of any of his Crew, or any Passenger on board, every such Person knowingly having such Letter or Packet in his Possession or in his Baggage, shall forfeit and pay for every Letter the Sum of Five Pounds.

Officers to search Packages.

XXV. And be it further enacted, That it shall be lawful for such Collector, Comptroller, or other Officer, at any Port or Place whatsoever, who in the due Execution of his Duty as a Revenue Officer shall discover any Letters or Packets on board any Vessel, in any Port or Place whatsoever, contrary to the Provisions of this Act, to seize and take all such Letters and Packets, and to forward the same to the Postmaster General or his Deputy at the Port or Place; and that the Officer seizing and sending the same shall be entitled to One Moiety of the Penalty which may be recovered for any such Offence; and that in all Cases of such Seizure, the Proof that the Provisions of this Act have been complied with, shall lie on the Person in whose Possession or Baggage the Letters or Packets shall be found.

*Penalty on breaking Seals of Box, Bag, or Packages of Letters, 20*l*.*

XXVI. And be it further enacted, That if any Person to whom any Letters may be entrusted by the Master of any Ship or Vessel, sealed up in the Manner required by this Act, shall break the Seal, or in any Man-

nor open the same, or shall not duly deliver the same without wilful or unavoidable Delay, every Person so offending shall forfeit and pay for every such Offence the Sum of Twenty Pounds.

Commanders of Ships of War to send Letters to the Post Office, for which an Allowance shall be made.

XXVII. And be it further enacted, That in case any Bags, Packages, or Parcels of Letters shall be brought by any Ship of War, the Commander thereof shall cause the same, and all Letters which may be on board (except the public Dispatches of Government,) to be immediately sent to the Post Office at the first Port where he shall arrive; and such Commander shall, for all such Letters, be entitled to receive the same Allowances as are payable to the Masters of other Ships and Vessels.

Money due to Masters of Vessels to be paid by Post-master General.

XXVIII. And be it further enacted, That in case it shall happen from any unforeseen Circumstances, that the Master of any Ship or Vessel, or the Commander of any Ship of War, shall upon delivering his Bags, Packages, or Parcels of Letters, be prevented from receiving the Money to which he shall be entitled, such Master or Commander shall nevertheless be paid the same, by the Order of the Postmaster General, at such other Places as may be most convenient.

Penalties how to be recovered and applied.

XXIX. And be it further enacted, That one Moiety of the several pecuniary Penalties hereby imposed shall be payable to the Use of His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, and the other Moiety to any Person who shall inform and sue for the same, to be recovered with full Costs of Suit, by Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, in any of His Majesty's Courts of Record in Great Britain, wherein no Essoign, Protection, or Privilege, or Wager of Law, shall be admitted.

In Actions brought for carrying Letters contrary to the Provision of 9 Anne, c. 10. or 42 G. 2. c. 81. Proof shall lie on the Defendant.

XXX. And be it further enacted, That in any Action or Suit against any Person or Persons, for collecting, conveying, delivering, or sending Letters or Packets contrary to the Provisions in an Act made in the Ninth Year of the Reign of Her late Majesty Queen Anne, intitled *An Act for establishing a General Post Office for all Her Majesty's Dominions and for settling a weekly Sum out of the Revenues thereof for the Service of the War, and other Her Majesty's Occasions*; or contrary to the Provisions in an Act made in the Forty-second Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, intitled *An Act for amending so much of an Act passed in the Seventh Year of the Reign of His present Majesty, as relates to the secreting, embossing or destroying any Letter or Packet sent by the Post*; and for the better Protection of such Letters and Packets; and for more effectually preventing Letters and Packets being sent otherwise than by the Post; or in either of them, or contrary to the Provisions of this Act, the Proof that the Letters or Packets were collected, carried, conveyed, delivered or sent, according to the Provisions contained in the said last mentioned Acts, or one of them, or according to the Provisions contained in this present Act (as the Case may require), shall lie on the Person or persons against whom such Action or Suit shall be brought for delivering or sending the same.

Application of the Rates.

XXXI. And be it further enacted, That the Monies to arise by the several Rates and Duties as aforesaid (except the Monies which shall be necessary to defray such Expenses as shall be incurred in the Management and Collection of the same, shall be paid into the Receipt of the Exchequer at Westminster, and carried to and made Part of the Consolidated Fund of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

Limitation of Actions. Treble Costs.

XXXII. And be it further enacted, That if any Action or Suit shall be commenced against any Person or Persons for any Thing done in pursuance of this Act, the same shall be commenced within Twelve Months after the Fact committed, and not afterwards; and the Defendant or Defendants in such Action or Suit shall and may plead the General Issue, and give this Act and the Special Matter in Evidence, and that the same was done in pursuance and by the Authority of this Act; and if it shall appear so to be done, or that such Action or Suit shall be commenced after the Time before limited for bringing the same, that then the Jury shall find for the Defendant or Defendants; and upon a Verdict for the Defendant, or if the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs shall be nonsuited, or discontinue his, her, or their Action or Suit after the Defendant or Defendants shall have appeared, or if upon Demurrer Judgement shall be given against the Plaintiff or Plaintiffs, the Defendant or Defendants shall and may recover Treble Costs, and have the like Remedy for the same as any Defendant or Defendants hath or have in any other Cases by Law.

Act not to extend to Letters, &c. to or from China.

XXXIII. Provided always, and be it further enacted, That nothing in this Act contained shall extend or be construed to extend to any Letters or Packets to or from China but that they may be sent and carried as heretofore has been used, any thing to the contrary herein contained in any way notwithstanding.

Fine Arts.

ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION.

(From the Examiner.)

The class of Portraiture has had a great diminution of interest this season from the absence of Sir T. Lawrence's pencil, which has been the only one in the Exhibition since Reynolds's, materially connecting it with subjects of higher importance. There have been indeed, occasional touches of this talent, such as the late Mr. Harlowe's *Queen Catharine* from Shakespeare, and Mr. Clint's *Lord Ogleby*, *Canton*, and *Brush*, now in the large room. But none of our Painters have given a poetical cast of thought to portraits like Sir T. Lawrence. For instance, there have been no exaltations of individual resemblance, like his *Kemble as Rolla*, or his *Lady Leicester as Hope*, from Spenser. In some important respects, Sir Thomas is surpassed. Thus, though no one has better general arrangement of colour, he is inferior to Sir W. Beechey in sweetness of tone, to Mr. Jackson and Mr. Phillips in tinting the skin, and in all local colour, and in bringing it out with its fullest power, as in the *Portraits of Archdeacon Corbett*, *Mr. Lambton*, *Mr. Crabbe*, &c. by Mr. Phillips, and of *Mr. Dance*, *Mrs. C. Long*, &c. by Mr. Jackson.

Mr. Jackson's capital portrait of *Lord Normanby* is not in good keeping with the place that nobleman stands in; for if riding-boots and spurs are sometimes worn by ambulators as well as riders on the sea-shore, it certainly is not usual to be standing there, without a hat under a squally sky, and especially when a closely-buttoned coat, and a snug well lined cloak over it, such as are here seen, give shivering evidence of a frigid atmosphere. We would not wish to dispense with his Lordship's boots, painted so admirably to the (still) life, did we not observe, that an uncommon surface painting skill is equally well developed by the Artist in every thing else, and that Day and Martin's unrivalled liquid would have shone from Mr. Jackson's brush with as ebony a luster on a pair of suitable shoes. If, too, the entire head must be seen (and it is always desirable in a portrait), why, in the name of consistency, not make it an inn-door one. These inconsistencies may be regarded by some perhaps, as small ones, as small perhaps as Mr. CANNING and the amiable ADDINGTONS regard their drinking wine and ruling together, after virulently abusing each other: or as BURROUGHS, the lately returned Member for Taunton, does his renegade-like surrender of the independent voters in that town, who elected him, to a passively obedient ministerial list. But consistency in Art, as in politics and every thing else, when it is on the side of truth, is always estimable. It is always indeed the companion of truth. She could no more be truth without it, than a manly and independent spirit can agree with any degree of servility, or than such a spirit can exist in a bought and perjured Member of Parliament. We observe a like defect in Mr. OWEN's portrait of Sir T. Acland, where the gentleman's hat, with his gloves lying carefully in it, are on the ground instead of his head. This is an unaccountable situation, except Sir Thomas, in his walks, has strange moments of starting and upward-looking aberration, such as he really appears to have on this canvass. A man might perchance, as he rambled abroad alone, suddenly stop, assume an attitude, plant one foot behind the other, fold his arms, and look upwards at—perhaps “a cloud that looks like a camel or a whale,” but we cannot so readily account for his placing, before he did all this, his hat and gloves on the grass. The flesh is here painted much livelier than has been the practice of this artist. His general spread of colour is a consistent grey, but his female carnations are still in too low a key. The complexion of the loveliest flowers of the human race is somewhat deadened by his pencil, like flowers of the garden, after being some time plucked. This is obvious in comparing 93, *A Lady*, to contiguously placed pictures; to *Sabrina*, by Mr. Westall, and 87, *The Duchess of Cambridge*, by Sir W. Beechey. But there is such ease in his portraits, such taste in the dresses, such nerve in the execution, such accordance in the general colour, and such strong resemblance, that Mr. Owen's talents will always be highly esteemed. We liked Mr. Shee better last year than formerly, and like him still more this, but the bloom on his female cheeks and lips is still a little too positive and pretty. They seem to engross too much of the red stream that in nature assists to carry health and beauty into other parts also of her fair dominion, and love into the heart of man. Mr. Shee's portraits still retain something of the appearance of being seen under a glossy surface, a transparent covering of coloured ice. In nature, only glass, water, and highly polished objects, have such a glossiness: still his portrait of Mr. Macnab, has a look of breathing actuality that is far from being ordinary. Mr. Pickersgill is making great advances. His attitudes are unconstrained. He lays his colour on with a justly felt confidence, and it is like his originals. While he sacrifices no necessary details, he pleases by his breadth. He gives his portraits ap-

propriate character and strong likeness. Such, with its manly as well as gentlemanly air, is 216, *General Sir R. Wilson*, whose breast is loaded on the outside with well earned insignia, gained by his fine chivalrous spirit, and inside with the noble spirit of liberty, which would be as successful against his and his country's worst enemies at home, as he has been against his enemies abroad, did they not beat him in one thing, in numbers, in a host of hired mercenaries.

In the late *Princess Charlotte*, Mr. Chalon has well hit off her open countenance, and pallid complexion. He has succeeded in conferring an air of mixed mildness and dignity on her look, countenance, and dress, spread out as it is in length on the sofa she is sitting upon. He makes us, in fine, sigh out approval. To 65, *The Honorable A. Mackenzie*, Mr. Geddes has given power of colour; also originality,—a difficult attainment. His attitudes are always easy and elegant.—Mr. Raeburn has also originality of colour, but we think it erroneously gloomy. In spite of the bright carnations in his figures, they appear as if some storm of fate was ready to burst over their devoted heads, from the unnaturally "green and yellow melancholy" clouds and back-grounds. Mr. Raeburn is however always interestingly vigorous. He lays on his paint with intelligent firmness, drawing, and effect, and the positions and movements of his figures are always good. A gracefully manly air distinguishes 212, *Highland Chief*.—87, portrait of the *Duchess of Cambridge*, by Sir W. Beechey, comes naturally out from the canvass upon the approving eye of taste. It shews throughout the lively light of day, which we think is too much kept out of portraits in general. It is elegantly attired with almost real looking satin, &c. It melts into our souls with sweet blendings. It is, in short, so femininely and amiably insinuating, as to be universally admired, and almost to cheat us into what no picture ever did or perhaps will deserve, unreserved approval. But Sir William has his faults. He sometimes blends his fleshy tints to a degree of softness that reverses his intended aim, and produces something of the effect of marbly hardness, as in 205, portrait of *Lady Stanley*, which is deficient in those touchy breaks, without which flesh in portraits will always thus appear, or like firm smooth wax. It is however a fascinating portrait.—Mr. Beechey is allied to Sir William as closely in Art as in filial relationship. He paints with much of his tuition of heart and imagination, the soft attractions of the prime charmer—woman. He has, too, an eye and power for giving the bolder aspects of her protector—man. Thus in 240, *A Field Officer of the Life Guards*, the handling is firm, the colour, and *chiaroscuro*, rich and strong, the look manly and martial.

Curiosities.

Legacy Disputed.—A very singular cause is now depending before the Court of Session in Scotland, respecting a legacy to the amount of upwards of fifty thousand pounds, bequeathed by the late Earl of F. (who died at Berlin) to a foreigner, who was one of his domestic servants. The payment of the legacy is disputed by the heir-at-law of the late Earl, on the ground that it was given for a highly immoral consideration; and from its novelty, the case is of course, the subject of much conversation in the northern metropolis. The arguments and pleadings in this extraordinary suit, in which the most eminent counsel of the Scottish bar are engaged, display much classical as well as legal learning; but no judgment has yet been pronounced by the Court. From the magnitude of the sum in dispute, it will probably be finally determined by an appeal to the House of Lords.

Interesting to Naturalists.—Recently, as the workmen of Mr. A. Marks of Liskeard, were cutting across an ash tree, they discovered a bird's nest in the interior of the tree, containing three eggs. The nest was entirely surrounded with sound timber, about eight inches thick, without the least appearance of an opening to the outside. About 30 years since, a similar discovery was made in Plymouth Dock-yard, a bird called a heckmal being found sitting on its eggs, in the centre of a large oak tree, which, by its immense growth, must have been enclosed 80 or 90 years. The eggs, on being touched, fell into dust: the skeleton of the bird and its nest have been preserved for the inspection of the curious. The inclosure of living fowls in large blocks of marble has been occasionally perceived: but the above discovery is a novel circumstance, and merits the attention of the naturalist.

Singular Discovery.—One of the workmen employed on board the *Madagascar*, in Sheerness Dock-yard, which is undergoing a thorough repair, lately fished, between the timbers in one of the ship's sides, an old snuff-box, containing a £5 note, a £1 note, and a crown-piece, where it had, no doubt, been deposited for safety by one of the seamen that had once sailed in her.

Mercantile Success.—The late Harvey Christian Combe, Esq. left a widow and ten children, four sons and six daughters. To Mrs. Coombe he left 3000*l.* a-year for life, issuing out of his landed estate, to revert on her decease to his eldest son; to the other sons, 20,000*l.* each; and to the six daughters, 10,000*l.* each.—Such is the effect of industry and prudence in this happy land of freedom and security.

Love in Criminal Life.—An instance of this kind lately occurred which perhaps deserves to be recorded. Some young men, in a state of intoxication or otherwise, had wandered into one of those retreats for smiling faces and broken hearts, which cover the scite of what was formerly St. George's-fields. They had no sooner entered this abode of painted wretchedness than their ears were struck with the sound of a female voice in an agony of tears. On inquiring what it was, they were told it was a young girl in the house, whose sweetheart had been just taken up for some crime that put his life in danger. Their curiosity as well as compassion being excited, they asked to see the girl, and the woman of the house, trying to console her, said—"Do, Betsey, tell the gentlemen all about it." The poor creature, then, with hair dishevelled and eyes streaming, began the account of her lover. She was sitting at a window one afternoon, looking at the people passing in the street, when a young man came up, with a handsome face, shaded with dark ringlets, and dressed in *jeaners*, and said to her—"Miss, I am very hungry, would you give me a crust of bread?" The girl struck with his manner, went into the kitchen and cut him the whole of the bottom crust off, which he devoured very eagerly, and expressed many thanks. After some conversation, he withdrew, but returned again to the window the next evening. At length an intimacy grew between them, and the consequence was that Betty was obliged to leave her father's house, and went to live with her seducer. She soon, however, began to be uneasy with him. He came home late at nights, started and talked in his sleep, and gave such evident signs of agitation and terror, that his mistress at last said to him—"Oh Nathan, you are upon the cross?"—which meant that he was a thief. This, Nathan denied for a long time, till being pressed by appearances and her questions, he one night confessed that he was, and said—"Well, Betsey, I am upon the cross!" Having been engaged in some desperate enterprise, he was taken up and sent to Cold-bath-fields prison. There his sweetheart used to go and see him, and stand the whole day together, at the grating, their hands locked in each other through the bars. He had received sentence of death, and this was what had thrown the girl into such an agony of grief. All the time she told her story, she wept bitterly. She said, "If he could but be got off, she would do any thing,—she would walk the street from morning till night, and take the meanest pittance to support him alive, and out of harm's way." Interest was made to change his sentence from death to transportation (with some difficulty, for it appears that he was quite a desperado,) and a sum of money was collected for the girl, who was advised to think no more of her lover,—but all in vain: she remained inconsolable for the loss, and could not wear her heart from the comely but unfortunate youth, who had first won it by his waving ringlets, his distress, and the pity she felt for it.

— "To shew that power of love, how great
Beyond all human estimate!"

Polly and her Macheath are not a fable—the fiction of the poet's pen; Oh no! They are parts of every-day life, and illustrate the deepest principles of our nature. "Love cannot be constrained by mastery." Its empire is too mighty, like that of a sea—it cannot be kept out by forms of law,—its everlasting spring gushes out, overflows, and melts the human heart, in spite of the dykes and fences of systems of morality. Where life is, there also is love, to sustain and warm it. The poor prostitute feels it for some "gentle George;" the thief "on the cross" feels his withered heart revive within him, when the tear of pity from fond eyes drops on his haggard cheek! Women are attached to all professions that imply a precarious and vagabond (or to speak it less harshly, romantic) mode of life—to soldiers, to sailors, to strolling-players, to gamblers, house-breakers, and pick-pockets. They love them for the hazards they run (they think for their sakes), for the interest and anxieties they excite; some of them for the glory, and others for the infamy they share with them. The spirit of contradiction is as strong as the impulses of vanity in the sex; they delight in liberty of choice, and shew it most by braving common opinion; and their self-will and affections are then at the height, and indulged to the greatest extravagance, when they have placed them on that which is an object of hatred and contempt to all others—on the very dregs of nature and outcasts of society.

Singular Death.—A horse belonging to Mr. M. Moyle, of Chace-water Cornwall, was lately taken ill and died. As no cause could be assigned for its illness, the carcass was opened, when an adder, nearly 2½ feet long, was found in the stomach.

Asiatic News.

Bombay, December 1.—An overland packet for England to be forwarded by the way of Egypt will be made up at the Chief Secretary's Office on Tuesday the 7th December.

Kutch.—Since the rains, fevers have been very prevalent; the atmosphere loaded with vapours, and a general want of wind to disperse them, is thought to be the cause.

Muscat.—Letters from this place mention the arrival of H. M. S. Liverpool, on the 13th of Nov.; an interchange of civilities immediately took place, and the Imam paid a visit of ceremony to Sir Wm. G. Keir, which was returned by him; under salutes of cannon from all the Forts; all the necessary arrangements for supplies, &c. having been made, the Liverpool would proceed to rejoin the Transports, at their Rendezvous off Kishma. From what we can learn respecting the disposal of the Joanshee Fleet, it would appear the greater part of them are at Ras ul Khyma, preparing to resist the attack of our troops.

The Persians it is said, are preparing to co-operate with us, and that 5000 men are in readiness to embark from Gombroon with the intention of garrisoning Bahrein; it is further mentioned that a Persian of high rank, had embarked on board the Honourable Company's Cruiser Teignmouth, on a mission to the Imam of Muscat, one object of which was to engage shipping to convey the Persian troops to the Arabian shore.

Letters from the Albinia, at Cochin the 12th November, mention that they experienced a very smart gale of wind off Cannanore, on the 7th Nov.; but owing to the admirable qualities of their little Ship, sustained no damage whatever. Sir EVAN is stated to be in good health and spirits; they would depart on the 14th in the evening.

The first division of the Transports in charge of the Curlew, was spoken with by the Eugenia, on the 16th November, within two or three days sail of the place of Rendezvous. [Bombay Gazette.]

Madras, Dec. 7.—The Northerly winds have blown with some strength for the last few days, and yesterday the weather was very squally and threatening at times, accompanied with fresh gales. The long expected Post Office Packet Sappho, came into the roads on Sunday morning, received the Mails on board, and continued her voyage immediately standing away with a fine breeze. She will in all probability be clear of the Bay by to-morrow; she was out of sight at 4 P. M. The Sappho had no Passengers for Madras.

The homeward bound Ship Barton, Captain Goldsmith, also came in on Sunday afternoon. She unfortunately struck in the morning on the Armeagon Shoal and unshipped her rudder, but we believe sustained no other damage.

We hope soon to hail the arrival of a Ship from England once again in our Port. The General Palmer, Captain Truscott, whose arrival in the Thames in June has been already noticed, we learn was to refit with all possible expedition, in order to her being immediately despatched on a return voyage to this country. She comes to Madras direct, and was expected to sail from the Downs in all the month of August.

After the foregoing was in the Press, the Ship Lord Wellington, L. Wasse, came to an anchor in the roads. She left Calcutta the 1st of November.

Last Tuesday, the Members of Saint Andrew's Lodge No. 2, gave an Entertainment to their Friends at the Madras Hotel, in commemoration of their Patron Saint Andrew, and about eight o'clock in the evening, a party of nearly forty sat down to an excellent dinner, and the evening passed with the greatest conviviality. The Sons of Saint Andrew parted at a late hour, greatly pleased with their amusement.

The following Toasts were given on the occasion: The King. The Prince Regent. The Duke of York. The Duke of Kent and the Army of England. The Duke of Sussex and Grand Lodge of the British Empire. The Marquis of Hastings the Patron of Masonry in India. The Right Honourable the Governor of Madras. Sir Thomas Hislop, the Hero of Mahidpour, and the Madras Army. Dr. Jebb, our Provincial Grand Master, and the Members of the Grand Lodge. To all Brethren round the Globe. To our Sister Lodges on the coast of Coromandel. To all Masons, Wives and other female relations. To the memory of Robert Burns, the Scottish Bard. To the pious memory of St. Andrew. The pious memory of St. Patrick. The pious memory of St. George. The pious memory of St. David. Leeks, Cakes, Puddings and Potatoes. [Madras Courier.]

Censorship of the Press in Java.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

In my humble opinion, the remarks of the Editor of the *India Gazette*, respecting the glorious boon of the Freedom of the Press, which has lately been conferred on the inhabitants of this country, are not only *ridiculous* but *mischievous*. The Censorship has been publicly declared, by at least as high legal authority as the Editor of that Newspaper, to have been **ILLEGAL**, and one would suppose this were sufficient.

But if there ever was a country in which that freedom was not only *applicable*, but *indispensably necessary*—it is British India; and for this plain reason, that there exists no other medium through which *impartial unbiassed truth* can reach the eyes of Supreme Authority. A Censorship may conceal public abuses for a time; but that it cannot prevent, and even tends to augment them, the following instance may possibly be deemed adequate to prove:

Under the Local British Government in Java, the Censorship of the Press may be said to have been carried to its height: yet this did not prevent an insurrection amongst a portion of the troops, which commenced in March 1814, and continued uninterruptedly, proceeding and increasing till the plan was ripe for execution, when it was discovered by the mutineers themselves in October 1815, and during all this length of time, not a single European entertained the slightest suspicion of this detestable plot's existence.

Now, is it not very obvious, that if a paragraph had been transmitted at any period to the *Java Gazette*, and printed in that Paper, simply conveying the information of the men having acquired improper admission to the palace of the Native Emperor, and enjoyed unrestrained opportunities of being seduced by him and his friends, that the attention of the Local Government, as a matter of course, must have been turned to the circumstance, and the mutiny crushed in its infancy by the removal of the soldiers to a different quarter of the Island?

Indeed the whole of the transactions which took place on Java, strongly illustrate the existing necessity for a *Free Press* in India, to the interests of Great Britain as well as those of the Honourable Company. Because, I am convinced had the British Parliament been made, thro' the channel of the Press, correctly acquainted with the real state of Java, the Island would never have been restored, as it is called, to the Dutch.

For, is it conceivable, that the nation ever would have consented to surrender two independent Sovereigns, who, (justly or the reverse is not the present question,) were subdued by the valour of our arms, in a state of thralldom into the hands of their inveterate foes, by whom they *never* had been conquered? or, that the Sultan of Madura would have been forsaken by us, when this Prince possessed such a rooted aversion to Dutch power, that he actually once seized the arm of the Writer of this Letter, and with tears in his eyes besought him to say that the British were not to quit Java, and leave him defenceless within the power of his enemies.

Is it, above all, likely, that six millions of population, inhabiting this magnificent Island, perfectly capable of affording full means of livelihood to a large portion of our Countrymen, and that too in a country, as superior to the barren sands of Southern Africa, as the mansions of Paradise are to the dungeons of Tartarus—is it, I repeat, conceivable, that the inestimable Island of Java (to say nothing of Banca) with its valuable and amiable people, who in a manner adored the English, and to every individual of whom the highest acceptable present was an article of British manufacture, could have been alienated from the general interests of the British Empire, had the *Java Gazette* been filled with facts for the information of the Supreme Government in Calcutta, and the Parliament in London, in whose hands its future destinies were placed?

The loss of Java may be considered amongst the bitterest fruits proceeding from the Thralldom of the Press; and every true hearted Briton, is in my opinion bound to implore eternal Providence to shower perpetual blessings on the head of the illustrious, the immortal HASTINGS, who has so materially benefited his Country by the complete removal of those degrading and pernicious shackles.

THE EARL OF MINTO did us a noble act, when at Batavia, he broke the instruments of torture, and threw them into the sea;—but it was not comparable to this.

Your's, &c.

Upper Provinces, Dec. 13, 1819.

MANCO NAGARA.

Sporting Intelligence.

Wednesday, December 22, 1819.

A Plate of 50 Gold Mohurs, for Maiden Arabs, 8 st. 7 lb. heats. T. M. 10 Gold Mohurs entrance.

| | Br. H. Snowball, (H. Coward) | 1 | 1 |
|----------------|------------------------------|---|---|
| 1 Mr. Walter's | Gr. H. Commissioner, | 3 | 3 |
| 2 Mr. Treves's | B. A. H. Mountebank, | 2 | 2 |
| 3 Mr. Arthur's | | | |

Even Betting on Snowball, against the Field—Won easily.

Match for 100 Gold Mohurs, G. M.

| | | | | |
|----------------|-------|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| 1 Mr. Treves's | | Ch. E. H. Restoration, (J. Mansfield) | 8 | 7 |
| 2 Mr. Black's | | B. C. M. Kid, | 8 | 7 |

Betting 3 to 2 on Restoration. Time, 1 minute 54 seconds—Won easily.

Match for 200 Gold Mohurs, H. F.—C. D.

| | | | | | |
|----------------|------|------|------------------------------|---|---|
| 1 Mr. Walter's | | | G. A. H. Nimrod, (H. Coward) | 3 | 7 |
| 2 Mr. Treves's | | | B. C. H. Eagle, | 8 | 7 |

Betting 3 to 2 on Nimrod. Time, 2 minutes 26 seconds—Won easily.

Match for 100 Gold Mohurs, R. C.

| | Ch. C. F. Laurel Leaf, (J. Wiseman) | 9 | 7 |
|---------------|-------------------------------------|---|---|
| 1 Mr. Black's | G. A. H. Strongback, | 9 | 7 |
| 2 Mr. Lamb's | | | |

Betting 3 to 2 on Laurel Leaf. A close race, but Won without much difficulty.

Sweepstakes of 100 Gold Mohurs, each 8 st. 7 lb. T. M.

| | |
|--------------|--|
| Mr. Treves's | B. E. M. Hetty, |
| Mr. Thomas's | B. E. G. Woodpecker, paid 80 Gold Mohurs, forfeit. |
| Mr. Black's | Gr. C. H. Roger, paid 60 Gold Mohurs, comp. |

Mr. Walter's B. N. C. Merlin, 8 st. 7 lb. received 70 Gold Mohurs, from Mr. Treves's Ch. A. C. Pelligrine, 8 st. 7 lb. R. C. 100 Gold Mohurs P. P.

Abbreviations.—C. C. Calcutta Course. B. C. Barrackpore Course. T. M. Two Miles. R. C. Round the Course. T. L. Tree in. Ca. D. Craven Distance. G. M. Gilbert Mile. T. Y. C. Two years old Course. Y. C. Yearling Course. E. English. C. Country Bred. Ca. Cape. A. Arab.

Lengths of the Courses.—Once Round the Calcutta Course, 1 mile 6 furlongs and 40 yards. Once Round the Barrackpore Course, 1 mile 5 furlongs and 100 yards. Tree in, 4 mile 4 furlongs. Craven Distance, 1 mile 2 furlongs. Gilbert Mile, 1 mile. Two years old Course, 6 furlongs. Yearling Course, 4 furlongs.

Government Orders.

GENERAL ORDERS, BY THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF.

Head Quarters, Calcutta; 15th December, 1819.

The Most Noble the Commander in Chief having been pleased to accept the resignation of Mr. G. Dickson, Muster Master to the King's Troops, proceeding to Europe on board the Honorable Company's ship Marquis of Wellington, the same is hereby notified accordingly, and it is to have effect from the date of departure of the abovementioned ship.

Head Quarters, Calcutta; 18th December, 1819.

The Most Noble the Commander in Chief in India has been pleased to make the following promotions and appointments, until the pleasure of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, shall be made known.

13th Light Dragoons.

Lieutenant William Turner to be Captain of a Troop, without purchase, vice H. S. Blackley, deceased, 3d November, 1819.

Lieutenant Thomas McKenzie, from the 21th Foot, to be Lieutenant without purchase, vice W. Turner, promoted, 3d Nov. 1819.

Cornet W. D. Hamilton, to be Lieutenant without purchase, vice Hancock, deceased, 8th November, 1819.

Cornet Arthur Dalzell, from the 17th Dragoons, to be Cornet without purchase, vice W. D. Hamilton, promoted, 9th November, 1819.

17th Light Dragoons.

Robert Lewis, Gentleman, to be Cornet without purchase, vice A. Dalzell, removed to the 13th Dragoons, retaining the original date of his appointment, viz. 1st January, 1819.

24th Foot.

Ensign Alexander McKenzie to be Lieutenant without purchase, vice Thomas McKenzie, removed to the 13th Dragoons, 3d November, 1819.

Ensign James Archibald Campbell, from the 53d Foot, to be Ensign without purchase, vice Alexander McKenzie, promoted, 3d November, 1819.

N. B. The appointment of Robert Lewis, Gentleman, to be Captain by purchase, in the 17th Dragoons, vice G. F. Clarke, promoted, is cancelled.

The senior supernumerary Lieutenant in the 17th Dragoons is brought on the regular Establishment of that Corps, in the vacancy occasioned by the death of Lieutenant Hatchinson, 27th October, 1819.

Head Quarters, Calcutta, 15th December, 1819.

With the sanction of Government, the Most Noble the Commander in Chief is pleased to order the embarkation of Lieutenant Mee, with the detachment of the 83d Regiment on board the ship Catherine, for which purpose Major General Wood has instructions to make the necessary arrangements.

Head Quarters, Calcutta; 20th December, 1819.

His Excellency the Most Noble the Commander in Chief has been pleased to accept the resignation of Ensign Edward Carroll, of H. M. 47th Regiment, until the pleasure of His Royal Highness the Prince Regent in the name and on the behalf of His Majesty, shall be made known.

That Officer's name will accordingly be struck off the strength of the 47th Regiment from the 6th instant.

By Order of the Most Noble the Commander in Chief,

THOS. McMAHON, Col. A. G.

Domestic Occurrences.

MARRIAGES.

On the 20th instant, Mr. David Beauland, of Jessore, Indigo Planter, to Miss Helen Greene, Daughter of the late Colonel Anthony Greene, of the Bengal Army.

On the 20th of November, by the Rev. G. Martin, Chaplain of Serdar, at the house of H. Pottinger, Esq. at Ahmednagar; Brigadier General Lionel Smith, C. B. Commanding the Poona Division of the Army, to Miss Isabella Carwen Pottinger, youngest Daughter of the late Edward Carwen Pottinger, Esq. of Mount Pottinger, in the County of Down.

DEATHS.

On the 17th instant, Miss Sarah Bradshaw, aged 7 years.

At Cuttack, of a fever, Captain Cornwallis Campbell, of the Ramghur Battalion, second Son of the late Doctor James Campbell, aged 31 years.

At Hully, on the 19th of November, on his way from Jaulna to Hyderabad, Edward Trant Bontein, Esq. eldest Son of Sir James Bontein, heretofore in the Life Guards, and lately Captain in the His Highness the Nizam's service—his death was caused by an abscess in the liver, for which he underwent a Medical operation, and died soon after.

At Cannanore, on the 16th of November, at 44, Quarter Master Sergeant John Dawkins, His Majesty's 69th Regiment, who had long and zealously served his country; and whose frankness, integrity, and social virtues will ever remain deeply engraven on the bosoms of the few who enjoyed the pleasure of his acquaintance.

At Ryacottah, on the 19th of November, Lieutenant Alexander Campbell, 5th Native Infantry.

At Nagpore, on the 12th of November, Lieutenant William Alexander McCurdy, 16th Native Infantry.

Shipping Intelligence.

CALCUTTA ARRIVALS.

(None)

CALCUTTA DEPARTURES.

| Date | Names of Vessels | Flags | Commanders | Destinations |
|---------|--------------------|---------|-----------------|--------------|
| Dec. 21 | Princess of Brazil | Porta. | J. J. d'Almeida | Lisbon |
| 21 | Bengal Merchant | British | A. Brown | China |
| 21 | Lusitania | British | R. Erash | Cape |
| 21 | Howley Lutchmey | British | Cannon | Calcutt |
| 22 | Fatal Curria | Arab | Ein Hussin | Judda |
| 22 | Nancy | French | Declaux | Bordeaux |

The Moira, Hornblow, passed Portsmouth on the 19th July.

*Printed at the Union Press, in Garstin's Buildings, near the Bankshall and the Exchange.